8th September 1928]

Orders have been given to the Press for the issue of the following publications:—

(1) Despatches from England, 1686–1692.

(2) Do. 1721–1724.

The Curator is allowed to undertake special research work only if it does not interfere with his legitimate duties.

(b) Yes.

Appointment of a person with knowledge of Persian and Arabic in the Madras Record office.

* 329 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed Sahib: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any post reserved in the Madras Record office for the appointment of a person knowing Persian, Arabic and Urdu;

(b) if so, when the post fell vacant for the last occasion and who, if any, has been appointed for the post and what are his qualifications; and

(c) if not, why not?

A.—(a) No.

(b) & (c) Do not arise.

Strength of the Muslims in the Madras Record office.

* 330 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed Sahib: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) what is the strength of Muslims employed in the Madras Record office ever since 1st of January 1916 up to date; and

(b) what was the strength prior to the abovesaid date?

A.—(a) & (b) A statement [a] showing the number of Muhammadans holding permanent appointments in the Madras Record office on 31st December 1915 and on the 1st of January in each of the subsequent years is laid on the table.

Transcription and publication of old manuscripts in Urdu and Arabic languages.

* 331 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed Sahib: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state the number and the nature of old manuscripts in the Persian, Urdu and Arabic languages hitherto transcribed and published by the Madras Record office?

A.—The Persian records in the Madras Record office have not been transcribed and published. There are no Urdu or Arabic records in the Madras Record office.

Stamps

Reduction of court-fees and stamps.

* 332 *Q.*—Mr. S. Satyamurti: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to bring in amending legislation to reduce court-fees and stamps in accordance with the wishes of the legislature;

(b) if so, when and on what lines; and

(c) if not, why not?

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[a] Printed as Appendix X on page 587 infra.